

# Flash: Long Beach to Get Funds in

## Stimulus Packages for Police

By Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske | March 7, 2009

City Manager Pat West just sent this to the City Council:

Good afternoon:

Just a little while ago, President Obama mentioned the City of Long Beach in a speech he gave in Ohio at the Graduation of Columbus Police Division's 114th Class. In that speech, which was covered by national media, Pres. Obama said:

"Today I'm pleased to announce that Attorney General Eric Holder and the Department of Justice are making available \$2 billion in Justice Assistance Grants from the recovery act. That's funding that will help communities throughout America keep their neighborhoods safer with more cops, more prosecutors, more probation officers; more radios and equipment; more help for crime victims and more crime prevention programs for youth. Cities and states can apply for these funds right away, and as soon as those applications are received, the Justice Department will start getting the money out the door within 15 days.....In Long Beach, California, it will be able to help fund 17,000 hours of overtime for law enforcement officials who are needed in high-crime areas. ..."

The speech is available online at <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29538287/> and copy is being provided for you.

### **How this Came About**

This came about as Long Beach has been in contact with the Department of Justice on potential uses for Stimulus funds. Long Beach is scheduled to receive \$1,623,668 in additional JAG/Byrne federal formula grants through the Stimulus package, and will be eligible to compete for additional funding, when the guidelines are promulgated. These funds can be used to pay for Front Line Law Enforcement, equipment and services. The Front Line Law Enforcement funds are used to supplement regularly budgeted overtime with task force operations on overtime to deal with emergent issues such as a flare up in gang-related violence. The Long Beach Police Department is considering using \$1 million of these funds for this purpose, funding 17,000 hours of front-line law enforcement. Long Beach is also considering using some of its formula funds to continue our investment in achieving radio interoperability by replacing up to 330 radios in police vehicles, as well as compete for additional competitive JAG/Byrne Grants. Long Beach Police Department is awaiting the final award and grant guidance for these dollars, and plans to compete for additional funds. This item will come to the City Council for final grant acceptance and authorization to spend the funding.

### **Report to Council on the Stimulus Package**

Staff are currently preparing an indepth overview of the Stimulus package for the City Council, including a memo describing the process, and a matrix showing our expected amount and potential projects. We hope to have this memo to you very shortly, and will be prepared to give a briefing at the Tuesday City Council meeting.

<http://schipskedistrict5journal.com/blog1/2009/03/07/flash-long-beach-to-get-funds-in-stimulus-packages-for-police/>